February 2021

## THE COPPER WIRE



# 2021 SCHOLARSHIPS

Copper Valley Telecom is pleased to announce that the applications for 2021 scholarships are now available! This year we will be giving out \$21,000 in scholarships to local eligible high school seniors.

CVT scholarships are available to graduating seniors whose parents or guardians are current members of Copper Valley Telecom Cooperative and reside in the Valdez or Copper Basin School Districts, including the communities of Tatitlek and Mentasta. Additionally, CVT will offer a \$1,000 scholarship for a Cordova senior whose parents have Copper Valley Telecom as their cell phone provider.

Applicants have until the close of business on March 15th, 2021, to submit their applications. Following the application deadline,

the scholarship committee will select the finalists based on their application merits and a possible interview.

Recipients of the CVT scholarships will be recognized at our annual meetings and at school graduation ceremonies. We encourage all eligible high school seniors to apply for these generous scholarships now. If you have questions about CVT scholarships, please contact Selah Bauer at 907-835-7742 or visit www.cvtc.org/scholarships to download your application.

CVT also promotes scholarships from The Foundation for Rural Services (FRS) and The Alaska Telephone Association (ATA). Please visit www. FRS.org for pertinent information before beginning the FRS scholarship application; the FRS scholarship application deadline is March 5th, 2021.

## **CELLULAR COVERAGE EXPANSION**

Copper Valley Telecom's cellular coverage is continuing to expand. Our newest cell site, named Aurora, located near Mile 8 of the Tok Cutoff, is now up and running! This site works in conjunction with our Gakona site to provide seamless VoLTE and data coverage throughout Gakona village and the Richardson Highway junction. Here at CVT, we strive always to be improving and providing you with state of the art communication services, so we are proud to announce another accomplishment towards that goal.





CVTC Board Members: Trish Stowe (P), Ryan Morgan (VP), Karen Linnell (Sec/Tres), Rob Chaffin, Mike Rego, Jennie Sodergren, Terry Valentine, Joey Virgin

# CHECKING IN WITH THE 2020 Scholarship Recipients

**Celia Chmielowski** received a scholarship from CVT in 2020. Here's what she had to say about how it helped her to finance her college education.

Receiving the CVT scholarship this year made all the difference in my financial stability starting my new life at college. I have been attending Boise State in-person and on-campus but recently came home for the holidays. COVID-19 has made my experience at college different, to say the least, but one I won't forget! I hope when I graduate, I will be able to come back to the Copper River Valley and work as a geologist and give back to my community. Thank you once more for this scholarship; it has helped me so much.

**Cassidy Mathews** is attending Montana State University. She said receiving the CVT scholarship helped her with the cost of tuition.

This spring will be my second semester in pursuing my business management degree. Thankfully, through the Covid-19 pandemic, I was able to still move to Montana and attend school both virtually and in-person. In the foreseeable future, I hope to find an internship during my junior and senior years to make connections for a future job after I graduate college in 2024. I am very thankful for this scholarship! Everything counts, and it has helped make college possible for me. Thanks.



**Cordova Ice Worm Festival** January 30th - February 6th, 2021 Visit www.cvtc.org for more information. **Grace Keller** received a CVT scholarship for the 2020 school year; She said the scholarship helped her pay for school at UAF and drives her to learn and continue her education.

I still attended UAF, but all my classes were online, which made it just a little harder. I prefer in-person and hands-on learning because it's easier. I plan to continue to attend UAF and earn a bachelor's degree, whatever the outcome of learning may be. I'm working in the summer to help supplement the tuition. I would like to thank the CVT committee for their support and generosity towards my education. I survived my first semester of college, ending with a 3.71 GPA (12 credits).

**Ruth Finau** is attending UAA and said receiving a CVT scholarship helped her in scholastic endeavors during her first semester of college when she was unable to find a job due to COVID-19.

Currently, I am still a full-time college student working mainly night shifts at Target to help pay for school. COVID-19 forced me to have all my classes online last semester, which was very unfortunate for me because I was really looking forward to meeting new people. However, you learn to work with what you get in life and keep moving forward. I plan on attending UAA as a full-time student with a major in Biological Sciences, and I still plan to work while I attend school.

## **CUSTOMER QUIZ**

Many CVT customers are familiar with our customer experience follow-up calls. The feedback you give on these calls is vital to helping our team continue to grow and provide you the best service possible. To make it even easier for you to share your feedback with us, we will now offer our customer experience quiz in email form!

### **The Copper Wire Quiz**

### Enter to Win a \$50 Account Credit

### February 2021

Answer all three questions below correctly, tear off, then mail or drop off at the Glennallen or Valdez business office. Return by the 10th of the month to ensure your entry is included in the monthly drawing. Congratulations to the last issue's winners, **MARSHA LESEMANN** (Glennallen) and **FRIEDA WILEY** (Valdez). **REMEMBER TO FILL IN YOUR NAME!** 

1. When is the deadline to apply for a CVT scholarship?	
2. Where is the newest CVT LTE site located?	
3. What is one of the methods that the customer quiz is sent out?	

Phone: